

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

News Release

Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Block Island NWR ■ John H. Chafee NWR at Pettaquamscutt Cove ■ Ninigret NWR ■ Sachuest Point NWR ■ Trustom Pond NWR

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For Immediate Release

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Public Programs by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

These programs are offered FREE to the public by a dedicated and skilled group of volunteers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife staff and local community resources in an effort to increase your enjoyment of the conservation, protection and enhancement of your National Wildlife Refuges in Rhode Island.

October Programs

Wild About Reading

We will read a nature-based story followed by nature themed activities. Join us for the fun in Kettle Pond's backyard! (best for ages 3 – 6)

Helen Johnson, USFWS Volunteer

Monday, October 1st, 10:30_{AM} – 11:30_{AM}

Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown

Toponymy

Toponymy is the study of place names. Join us for an evening exploring the meaning behind the names “Refuge”, “Rhode Island”, “Sachuest”, and other common terms we come across every day – with a little bit of geography and legend tied in! Refreshments will be provided.

Norman Champagne, Historian, Field Guide and Instructor

Thursday, October 6th, 6:00_{PM} – 7:30_{PM}

Sachuest Point NWR, Middletown

Sauntering and Seeking

The natural world is ever changing and always interesting. Each day afield provides an opportunity to see things new and different as well as renew our acquaintance with the familiar. Join us for a leisurely walk at the Trustom Pond NWR to see what there is out and about. There is no particular agenda except to look at nature – maybe we'll even view some of the early fall waterfowl migrants! We'll talk about what we see and discuss goings-on in the natural world at this time of year. Bring your curiosity and, if you have them, binoculars. Heavy rain and/or lightning cancels, otherwise we go.

Dave Clayton, Biologist & USFWS Volunteer

Saturday, October 6th, 10:00_{AM} – 12:00_{PM}

Trustom Pond NWR, South Kingstown

Surf Fishing Clinic

Do you enjoy fishing or want to learn how? Join Park Ranger and local surfcaster Neil Anthes for a salt water surfcasting clinic. We will learn about several game fish and tips and tricks on how to catch them, as well as fishing safety and the best way to land a fish. This will be followed by a fishing portion of the program to practice your skills. We will have fishing rods and waders for the first 20 participants. Feel free to bring your gear and knowledge to share with the class. Recommended ages 13 & Up.

Neil Anthes, USFWS Employee

Friday, October 12th, 6:00_{PM} – 8:00_{PM}

Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown

Earth Explorations Through Film

This week we'll be viewing an episode of the *Frozen Planet* series titled *The Ends of the Earth*. Both the Arctic and the Antarctic experience the seasons, not as we know them, but at their most extreme. From "living" ice that aids in steering currents and weather world-wide, to the unending struggle the polar species take part in for survival, one might say no habitat has wildlife more adapted to their climate. Popcorn and juice will be provided! This series might not be appropriate for our youngest viewers, so parental discretion is advised.

Shannon Griffith, USFWS Volunteer

Friday, October 12th, 6:30_{PM} – 7:30_{PM}

Sachuest Point NWR, Middletown

Tales from the Wild: *Beaks*

Designed as a story time for youth, this activity is sure to be great fun for the youngest naturalists among us. We will read the children's story, *Beaks*, and then embark on our own beak exploration through crafts and other fun activities. (best for all ages)

Shannon Griffith, USFWS Volunteer

Saturday, October 13th, 10:30_{AM} – 11:30_{AM}

Sachuest Point NWR, Middletown

Creature Peepers

Join us for a discovery of everything BUGS! First we'll get up close and personal with some real bugs, then take part in some fun crafts and other activities – all while watching the animated movie *A Bug's Life*. This is a program even the youngest wildlife enthusiasts will enjoy. (best for all ages)

Shannon Griffith, USFWS Volunteer

Sunday, October 14th, 11:00_{AM} – 1:00_{PM}

Sachuest Point NWR, Middletown

Wild About Reading

We will read a nature-based story followed by nature themed activities. Join us for the fun in Kettle Pond's backyard! (best for ages 3 – 6)

Helen Johnson, USFWS Volunteer

Monday, October 15th, 10:30_{AM} – 11:30_{AM}

Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown

Fish of Rhode Island

As the "Ocean State", fishing is a common activity throughout the state of Rhode Island – but does everyone really know what species of fish really live off the state's coast? Join us for an evening with Norman Champagne, an experienced boater and fisherman that has over 50 years' experience in Rhode Island's waters. Refreshments will be provided.

Norman Champagne, Historian, Field Guide and Instructor

Thursday, October 18th, 6:00_{PM} – 7:30_{PM}

Sachuest Point NWR, Middletown

Wild About Reading

We will read a nature-based story followed by nature themed activities. Join us for the fun in Kettle Pond's backyard! (best for ages 3 – 6)

Helen Johnson, USFWS Volunteer

Monday, October 22nd, 10:30_{AM} – 11:30_{AM}

Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown

Night Owls

The USFWS is always out in the field learning about wildlife. Come and check out one of our nocturnal species projects – the Saw-whet Owl. Join Biologist Rhonda Smith at the Trustum Pond Contact Station for a hike out to our banding site for a night of owl banding and interesting owl facts – hopefully we “catch” some! Don’t forget to bring a flashlight and dress for the weather! This program is subject to cancellation in the event of inclement weather. Please call Sarah Lang at 401/847-5511 ext. 203 to reserve a spot in the program – space is limited!

Rhonda Smith, USFWS Employee

Wednesday, October 24th, 8:30_{PM} – 10:30_{PM}

Trustum Pond NWR, South Kingstown

Earth Explorations Through Film

This week we’ll be viewing an episode of the *Frozen Planet* series titled *Spring*. Join us for a discovery of the rapid transformation that takes place as Spring reaches the polar regions – causing ice to melt and the formation of new life. Popcorn and juice will be provided! This series might not be appropriate for our youngest viewers, so parental discretion is advised.

Shannon Griffith, USFWS Volunteer

Friday, October 26th, 6:30_{PM} – 7:30_{PM}

Sachuest Point NWR, Middletown

Craft and a Movie – The Ocean

We will watch the children’s story, *Finding Nemo*, and then embark on our own ocean exploration through crafts and other fun activities. (best for all ages)

Shannon Griffith, USFWS Volunteer

Saturday, October 27th, 10:30_{AM} – 12:30_{PM}

Sachuest Point NWR, Middletown

Growing Up Wild – Looking at Leaves

Can you tell the difference between different types of trees? By looking at leaves, we can show you how! Come take a look at some of the more common leafy plants we have locally. Then we’ll go outside and find our own leaves to use for crafts and other fun activities! Join in on the fun for part seven of our *Growing Up Wild* series. (best for all ages)

Shannon Griffith, USFWS Volunteer

Sunday, October 28th, 10:00_{AM} – 12:00_{PM}

Sachuest Point NWR, Middletown

Wild About Reading

We will read a nature-based story followed by nature themed activities. Join us for the fun in Kettle Pond's backyard! (best for ages 3 – 6)

Helen Johnson, USFWS Volunteer

Monday, October 29th, 10:30_{AM} – 11:30_{AM}

Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown